

Graduate Certificate of Psychology



JAMES COOK
UNIVERSITY
AUSTRALIA



50 YEARS'
EXPERIENCE IN
PSYCHOLOGY



TOP 2% OF
THE WORLD'S
UNIVERSITIES*



5 STARS FOR
TEACHING &
EMPLOYMENT#

*2024 ShanghaiRanking Academic Ranking of World Universities

#2024 QS Stars Report


 online.jcu.edu.au

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A photograph of three people (two women and one man) sitting on a dark blue sofa in a modern, brightly lit room. They are all smiling and looking towards each other, suggesting a positive conversation. In the background, there is a wooden sideboard with a potted plant and a gold-colored lamp.

The opportunities with JCU Online's Graduate Certificate of Psychology

In a rapidly changing world, understanding psychology is more and more relevant in the workplace and in everyday life.

Whether you want to enhance your skills in your human-centred role or you are passionate about understanding the human psyche for yourself, JCU's 100% online Graduate Certificate of Psychology will equip you to reach your goals.

You can build your knowledge of this widening field as you apply contemporary psychological concepts to address community-based challenges.

You can also use this course as the stepping stone to completing the 100% online Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Bridging) and becoming a practising psychologist.

Backed by 50 years of experience in teaching and research in psychology, JCU Online's Graduate Certificate in Psychology will help you succeed in a complex world and better serve clients and communities.



Who is this program for?

The JCU Online Graduate Certificate of Psychology is a contemporary, hands-on qualification that gives you a grounding in modern psychology and helps you learn to apply it to your current role or in everyday life.

Pathway for further studies in psychology

This qualification is a great option if you are interested in studying psychology but are unsure of whether you would like to commit to longer term study.

When you complete the Graduate Certificate of Psychology, you can choose to continue on to the Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Bridging) for a higher qualification.

Human-centred professions

This course may also suit you if you are in a human-centred occupation and want the skills to help you achieve more in current and future roles.

You could benefit if your role involves teaching, human resources, marketing, counselling, social work or consulting.

Passionate enquirers

This course may also suit you if you are simply looking for the opportunity to grow your knowledge in psychology.

The study of the human mind is relevant to just about everyone and may even inspire you toward further study in psychology.



Gain qualifications as you go

Upon completion of the Graduate Certificate of Psychology, you'll have the option of going on to earn a Graduate Diploma of Psychology (Bridging).



Complete **4** subjects
Duration: 8 months (minimum)



Graduate Certificate
of Psychology

Or continue studying



Complete **6 more** subjects
Duration: 12 more months (minimum)



Graduate Diploma
of Psychology (Bridging)

Why study psychology online with JCU?



Designed for the future

This course is designed to deliver the skills required to succeed in a world where the scope of psychology is widening. Depending on the subjects you study, you will have the opportunity to learn about the latest emerging trends in psychology impacted by technology, globalisation, and increasingly complex and integrated health, environmental, and social challenges.



Pragmatic & applied

This course is designed to develop your professional skills rather than theoretical knowledge alone. Depending on what subjects you study in your graduate certificate, you will use various technologies, work on community-based projects and undertake non-traditional assessments. You will have the opportunity to write and craft articles on current affairs and public discourse – not just academic papers – to demonstrate application of knowledge and understanding of global challenges.



Unique curriculum

This course will provide you with a contemporary and global view of psychology.

You will study a broad scope of subjects unique to the Graduate Certificate of Psychology at JCU Online.

These subjects are aligned to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and current and emerging global health challenges in a technology-enabled society.



100% online & accelerated

A dedicated, 100% online learning environment with no on-campus commitments. Gain access to globally-experienced academics and the ability to fast-track your program by studying one subject every seven weeks. You will complete your qualification in as little as eight months.



Course details

Fees:

\$3,572 per subject

FEE-HELP is available for eligible students

Duration:

- 8 months (minimum)*
- 4 subjects in total

Study periods:

Enrol in January, March, May, July, September or October
[View academic calendar](#)

* Duration dependent on individual study path and subject availability.
Please speak to an Enrolment Advisor for more information.



Have questions?

Book a quick 15-minute call with an Enrolment Advisor or chat with us online

[Schedule a call](#)

[Chat online](#)

Course structure

You will study four subjects to complete the Graduate Certificate of Psychology. Depending on the study period when you begin your course, you will complete **four** of the following subjects.

Social Psychology →

Individual Differences in Personality →

The Psychology of Health, Wellbeing and Resilience →

Human Development Across the Lifespan →

Psychological Disorders and Interventions →

Learning, Memory Cognition and Language →

Neuroscience and the Biological Bases of Behaviour →

Environmental Psychology and Sustainable Futures →

Principles of Counselling →

Research and Statistics for Psychology →

The online student experience at JCU



Personalised support from your Success Advisor

Benefit from the support of a one-on-one personalised Success Advisor during your online studies. Along with your tutors, your Success Advisor is there for you from your first day as a student with JCU Online. They are readily available to help you navigate your online experience and to keep you motivated throughout your course.



Enjoyable interactive learning environment

JCU's interactive, immersive online environment makes learning enjoyable, no matter what topic you're studying. Video, audio, forums and practical exercises suit a wide range of personal learning styles and help learning come to life. Connect with peers and tutors via live chat sessions when and where it suits you.



Qualify from a world-class university

Backed by 50 years of experience in teaching and research in psychology, JCU is ranked in the top 2% of Global Universities and has a five-star rating for graduate job success and full-time employment (Good Universities Guide).



Entry requirements

Entry requirements:



Completed a minimum of an AQF Level 7 Bachelor qualification in any field other than Psychology at this or another University.



Applicants of non-English speaking backgrounds must meet the English language proficiency requirements of Band 1— Schedule II of the JCU Admissions Policy.

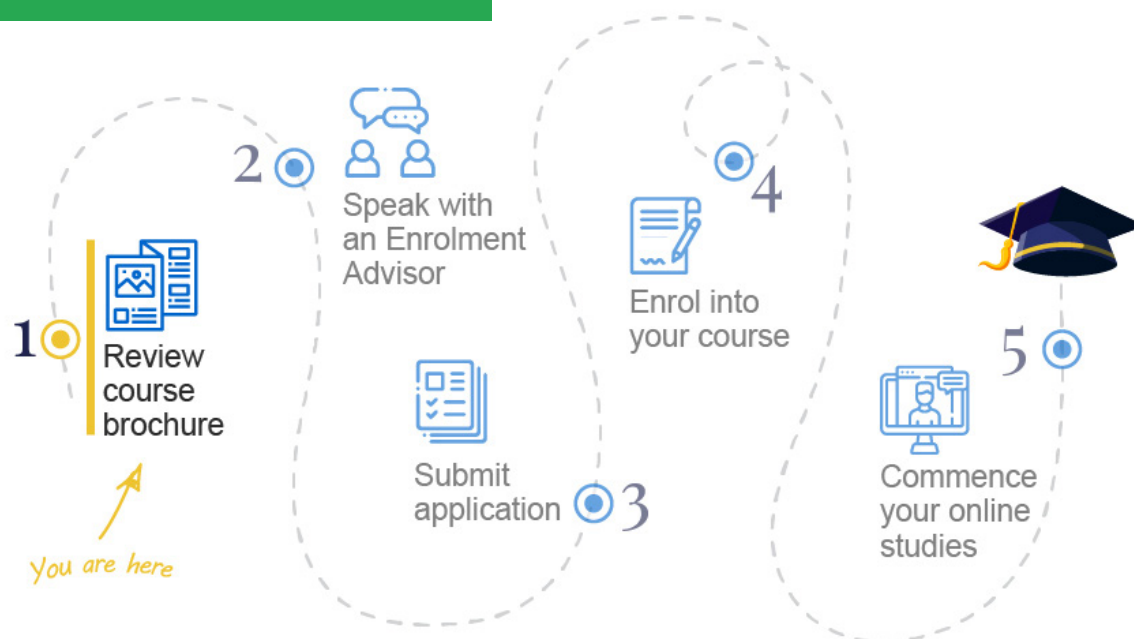
Inherent requirements:



Inherent requirements are the identified abilities, attributes, skills, and behaviours that must be demonstrated, during the learning experience, to successfully complete a **course**. These abilities, attributes, skills, and behaviours preserve the academic integrity of the University's learning, assessment, and accreditation processes, and where applicable, meet the standards of a profession

All JCU students have the opportunity to demonstrate, with reasonable adjustments where applicable, the inherent requirements for their course.

Next steps



Get our help:

After you have read this brochure, the next step is to make sure online postgraduate study is right for you. Our friendly team of Enrolment Advisors are here to ensure you enrol in the course that aligns best with your goals. They will be with you every step of the way from application to enrolment, to make sure that your postgraduate study journey has a smooth start.

Our Enrolment Advisors will help you:

- Learn more about the course.
- Decide whether this course will help you reach your goals.
- Determine your eligibility for the course.
- Answer questions about your application.
- Offer support throughout the application process and more.

"We have a deep understanding of the admissions and enrolment process and can help students at every step to have a smooth start. In addition to this, we can also help students to choose the right course like Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma or Masters in the particular field depending on their future need,"

says Enrolment Advisor **Shweta Dhayal**.



Book a 15-minute call or chat with us online

[Schedule a call](#)

[Chat online](#)



Contact details

Phone: 1300 535 919
Email: learn@online.jcu.edu.au
Website: online.jcu.edu.au

Our Enrolment Advisors are available:

Monday and Tuesday: 8am – 6pm (AEST)
Wednesday and Thursday: 8am – 7pm (AEST)
Friday: 8am – 5pm (AEST)

Have questions?



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Application process

1. Call or email



1300 535 919
learn@online.jcu.edu.au

Speak to a dedicated Enrolment Advisor who will:

- Discuss your career goals and whether this is the right qualification for you.
- Assist you with questions about fees, subject selection and majors.
- Help ensure your enrolment experience is a smooth one.

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2. Gather documents



Transcripts and certificates

Documents to confirm prior studies.

Proof of English language skills (if applicable)

If you have completed Year 12 in Australia, that's usually all the evidence you need.

3. Apply online



Once you've completed Steps 1 and 2, you're ready to [apply online](#) with our straightforward process.

Have questions?



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A close-up portrait of Dr Kerry Anne McBain, a woman with long blonde hair and blue eyes, smiling warmly. She is wearing a red top and a gold chain necklace. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting foliage.

A note from our course coordinator

Dr Kerry Anne McBain is the Head of Psychology at James Cook University. She has been teaching and coordinating courses and supervising research at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels of the psychology program in Townsville, Cairns and Singapore since 2001.

She is a registered psychologist who owned and operated a successful private practice for many years, working with clients across a broad spectrum of areas including the provision of care relative to the impact of the environment on mental health, wellbeing and resilience; families and relationships; and sport psychology.

At the centre of her development as an educator and her career within the tertiary sector is a passionate commitment to research as a vehicle for informing curriculum and the development of learning materials. Her focus on the application of research-based practice directly reflects the changing and trending nature of the global community in which we live and the cultural, social and geographic environments through which human services are delivered.

Her research spans the areas of social, environmental and developmental psychology, with a specific interest in interpersonal communication and the relationships we form with people, animals and the places in which we live and interact.



Social Psychology

This subject provides a historical and contemporary overview of social psychology, introducing students to the key theories and research methods used to explain and predict people's thoughts, feelings and actions in social situations.

Students will examine key concepts such as social perception, social influence, and social relations and develop an understanding of individual, cultural and contextual differences in social cognition. The applied nature of social psychology is highlighted with reference to the key areas of health and wellbeing, human relations and sustainable development.

Learning outcomes

- Identify the key issues and phenomena studied by social psychologists;
- Critically reflect upon the importance of social psychology theories and methods in light of historical and emerging global issues;
- Apply key theories of social psychology to address global challenge scenarios.



Individual Differences in Personality

In this subject, students will explore historical, contemporary and emerging theoretical approaches to personality.

Students will also examine individual and cultural differences in the conceptualisation and measurement of personality which impact the practice of psychology.

Learning outcomes

- Link key aspects of contemporary theoretical developments, historical and emerging trends in the conceptualisation and assessment of personality;
- Critically evaluate key theories and measurement of personality psychology to formulate culturally sensitive responses to problems.



The Psychology of Health, Wellbeing and Resilience

This subject provides an introduction to the field of health psychology. In this subject students will investigate global health issues, chronic disease and the biopsychosocial determinants of health, wellbeing and resilience.

Students will consider topics such as the role that motivation and emotion play in relation to health and wellbeing.

Learning outcomes

- Differentiate key concepts and cultural variations of health, wellbeing and resilience;
- Critically evaluate, apply and illustrate behavioural change theories to address an identified global challenge in the area of health, wellbeing or resilience.



Human Development Across the Lifespan

In this subject students will explore the human experience of life and the physical, cognitive, and social-emotional changes which occur across the life span.

Students will examine key topical areas including the interplay of genes and environment; intellectual and cognitive growth and decline; sensory perception; language and lifelong learning; ageing, perspectives on death and dying. Students will investigate how lifelong changes are shaped by the context of the world in which we live.

Learning outcomes

- Identify key theoretical approaches to physical, cognitive, and social-emotional development across the lifespan;
- Critically appraise and apply theoretical models of development across the lifespan in response to a problem.



Psychological Disorders and Interventions

This subject will provide an introduction to empirical approaches to understanding maladaptive mental processes and behaviour, psychosocial disorders, and dysfunctions in all age groups.

Students will examine culturally appropriate, evidence based assessment and interventions for a range of psychological disorders.

Learning outcomes

- Identify key theoretical perspectives, methods, maladaptive mental processes and behaviour, psychosocial disorders, and dysfunctions across the lifespan;
- Apply diagnostic criteria using the DSM-5 to diagnose psychological disorders and choose culturally appropriate treatments.

Learning, Memory, Cognition and Language

In this subject students will be introduced to the study of human information processing. Students will explore key theories and research, classic and contemporary viewpoints on how information from the environment is acquired, stored, processed, retrieved and utilised.

Students will consider the application of research in learning, memory, cognition and language in the context of global challenges, the ageing global population, and our increasing reliance on technology.

Learning outcomes

- Apply historical and contemporary theoretical approaches and research to solve problems in the field of Learning, Memory, Cognition and Language;
- Apply and evaluate theories and principles of cognitive psychology in the context of the global challenges including our global ageing population;
- Analyse, synthesise, and present findings from cognitive research in an appropriate manner.

Neuroscience and the Biological Bases of Behaviour

In this subject students will be introduced to the key theories and concepts relevant to the biological bases of behaviour.

Coverage includes the structure and function of the nervous system, how information is transmitted in the nervous system, the role of biological factors in cognition and motivated behaviours; and the anatomy and physiology of the sensory systems from periphery to cortex.

Learning outcomes

- Identify the ways in which the nervous system functions in sensation, perception and processing of information;
- Critically evaluate and apply theoretical models and methods of the biological bases of behaviour to propose solutions to current global health challenges;
- Communicate proposed solutions to current global health challenges to a variety of audiences.



Environmental Psychology and Sustainable Futures

This subject provides an introduction to the field of Environmental Psychology and the role that psychology may play in developing sustainable futures.

Students will explore the contribution that psychology can make to understanding, predicting and influencing human behaviour with respect to some of the current and emerging contemporary global challenges.

Learning outcomes

- Integrate knowledge of the theories, methods and practice of Environmental Psychology with future career pathways;
- Communicate information to a diverse audience;
- Apply research and theories of environmental psychology to the evidence based design of a community-based project.

Principles of Counselling

This subject will provide a systematic introduction to the theory and practice of counselling in a multicultural society. Students will explore mechanisms for engaging with issues related to culture and diversity when working with clients and evaluate the influence of personal beliefs and values on the counselling process.

Students will engage with historical and contemporary theories and methods of counselling and reflect upon how these therapeutic perspectives may influence their (potential) counselling style and practice. Students will also consider legal and ethical issues relevant to the therapeutic setting.

Learning outcomes

- Integrate knowledge, skills and reflective practice in counselling;
- Critically evaluate and apply philosophical and theoretical approaches to counselling for culturally diverse populations;
- Demonstrate a broad knowledge of theoretical approaches, techniques, legal and ethical issues relevant to the therapeutic setting.



Research and Statistics for Psychology

In this subject students will explore the research process and some of the most commonly used methods of statistical analysis relevant to the profession of psychology and the conduct of psychological research.

Students will be introduced to the research process from the identification of a research question, research design and choice of statistical analysis to the interpretation of data and the dissemination of results. Students will apply their knowledge to a range of case scenarios.

Learning outcomes

- Identify and define a range of methodological and philosophical principles in research design, analysis and interpretation;
- Synthesise, analyse and interpret quantitative data to generate solutions to research questions.



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